

**REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS FOR THE PRECEDING YEAR OF
THE COMMISSIONERS OF INTERNAL ECONOMY OF THE HOUSE
OF COMMONS, PURSUANT TO RULE 9.**

THE SPEAKER'S CHAMBERS,

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

17th December, 1909.

A Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Internal Economy was held in the Speaker's Chambers on Friday, the 17th day of December, 1909, at 11.30 a. m.

Present: The Hon. The Speaker.
The Hon. W. S. Fielding,
The Hon. L. P. Brodeur,
The Hon. William Pugsley, and
The Hon. William Paterson.

The following Resolutions were adopted:

1. Resolved—That the claim of Mr. J. B. R. Laplante, Clerk Assistant, for the payment to him of \$150 increase of his salary, known as the "flat increase," of the Session of 1909, which he alleges to be improperly withheld, be referred to the Department of Justice for its opinion, and that the Secretary be requested to forward to the Department of Justice all the correspondence and papers in connection with the said claim.

2. Resolved—That inasmuch as the retiring Chief Translator, Mr. Frechette, contemplates visiting Europe during the continuance of his leave of absence, he be requested to make a report upon the systems of translation of Debates and public documents employed in Belgium and Switzerland, respectively, if he can conveniently do so, together with any suggestions in connection therewith that he may deem useful for the House of Commons of Canada. Should Mr. Frechette undertake an enquiry and report on this subject the Board will recommend and approve of an extension of his leave of absence for three months longer for that purpose.

3. Resolved—That the Board deems it desirable that at the close of this Session the residential apartments in the House now occupied by the Sergeant-at-Arms be vacated by him and transferred for the use of the House of Commons, the Sergeant-at-Arms to retain office room in the building. In consideration of the giving up of the said residential apartments an annual compensation therefor shall be made to that official by way of addition to his cash salary so that in any event his salary shall be at all times equal to that of the Clerk Assistant of the House.

4. Resolved—That the Sergeant-at-Arms be requested to report to the Board, at the earliest possible date, as to any other apartment in the House

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of Commons portion of the Parliament Buildings which are used for residential purposes, their number, capacity and value; as to whether the same are necessary for the purposes of the House, particularly as to the rooms occupied by the Superintendent of the Messenger Service and Housekeeper (Mr. Dube).

5. Resolved—That the application of Mr. A. H. O'Brien, Law Clerk, for the reconsideration of the question of his salary, be not entertained.

6. Resolved—That after the close of the present Session the custom of providing a trunk and separate package of stationery for Members of the House, and others, be discontinued.

7. Resolved—That the Secretary be directed to subscribe for the Canadian Railway Guide and Gazetteer, for one year; copies to be supplied to Members of the House.

8. Resolved—That the correspondence in relation to the superannuation of the Members of the Hansard staff, be referred to the Treasury Board for its consideration.

9. Resolved—That the question of recommending the appointment of an additional Official Stenographer, presented before the Board by Messrs. Matthews and Dickson, be laid over for further consideration.

10. Resolved—That the application of the Hansard Amanuenses for an increase of daily compensation be declined.

11. Resolved—That the application of Theo. Joncas, Sessional Messenger, for payment of his salary during the Session of 1908-1909, on the ground that during that Session he was disabled by sickness from being present to attend to his duties, and being absent in consequence of sick leave be granted.

12. Resolved—That the leave of absence granted to Mr. Patrick Minnehan, Sessional Messenger, on account of sickness, during the present session, be approved.

CHARLES MARCIL,
Speaker.

SPEAKER'S CHAMBERS

Tuesday, Feb. 1st, 1910.

Meeting of the Board of Internal Economy of the House of Commons, was held in the Speaker's Chambers on Tuesday, February 1st, 1910, at 9 o'clock p. m.

Present: The Hon. The Speaker,
The Hon. W. S. Fielding, and
The Hon. William Pugsley.

The Secretary reported that he had laid the question of Mr. Laplante's claim to the "flat increase" of salary, referred to in the Minutes of the Board of the 17th December last, including all the papers in the case, before the Department of Justice.

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The following letter from the Deputy Minister of Justice was read:

"Ottawa, 7th January, 1910.

"Sir,—

"I have considered the questions submitted by your letter of the 29th ult. as to the legality of Mr. Laplante, Clerk Assistant of the House of Commons, for a flat increase of \$150.00, provided by the Flat Increase Act of 1909, and upon the facts as stated and as appearing by the correspondence which you submit, I have no doubt that Mr. Laplante is eligible to be granted the said increase. The objection stated by the Auditor General is, I think, untenable, since Section 2 of the said Act does not appear to have any application to Mr. Laplante's case, inasmuch as the increase of \$700.00 which he has already received was not affected upon or by reason of an organization and classification under the Civil Service Amendment Act, 1908, but got independently under a grant authorized by special appropriation.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your obedient servant,

"E. L. NEWCOMBE,

"Deputy Minister of Justice."

The Board decided to take no action in the matter.

CHARLES MARCIL,
Speaker.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

SPEAKER'S CHAMBERS.

Meeting of the Board of Internal Economy, Thursday, March 3rd, 1910.

Present: The Hon. The Speaker,
The Hon. W. S. Fielding, and
The Hon. William Pugsley.

Upon reading the report of the Clerk of the House in regard to the late Murdock McKinnon, Chief of the English Sessional Clerks, who died on the 3rd day of March, 1909, and who had been for thirty years in the Public Service, of which the last sixteen years were in the service of the House of Commons, the family of the deceased were voted the usual two months' gratuity.

Whereas the practice of permitting Rooms in the House of Commons portion of the Parliamentary Buildings for other than Parliamentary or Governmental purposes has proved unsatisfactory and frequently embarrassing, and owing to the fact that applications from Societies and other individuals are constantly being made for the use of these Rooms for various meetings and objects for which leave cannot well be refused without an appearance of partiality or favouritism, It is Resolved that for the future the use of any of these Rooms for other than purely Parliamentary and Governmental purposes be prohibited.

CHARLES MARCIL,
Speaker.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS,
THE CLERK'S OFFICE,

Tuesday, March 22nd, 1910.

Meeting of the Board of Internal Economy.

Present: The Hon. The Speaker,
The Hon. W. S. Fielding,
The Hon. William Pugsley.

On reading the correspondence between the Speaker of the House, The Clerk and Col. Smith, Sergeant-at-Arms, on the subject of the rent charged on account of residence, and the valuation of the same as made by the Chief Architect, it was resolved that the rent charge of \$800 made against the Sergeant-at-Arms on account of his residence be reduced to \$500 per annum and that the difference of three hundred dollars be added to the cash portion of his salary and that the said sum be provided for in the Supplementary Estimates.

On reading the application of Mr. James O'Farrell, Sessional Clerk, who resides in Montreal, for pecuniary consideration on account of illness, and of his being unable to attend during the present Session of Parliament, also the certificate of Dr. Thomas Lovett, of Montreal, and the letter of R. Bickerdike, M. P., and it appearing that Mr. O'Farrell had been in the service of the House for some thirty-three years and was unable to attend owing to having broken his leg in October last and the illness consequent thereon, it was resolved that Mr. O'Farrell be allowed leave of absence for the present Session and that he be allowed the sum of \$2.50 per diem in lieu of full payment during the Session.

The Board then adjourned.

CHARLES MARCIL,
Speaker.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,
SPEAKER'S CHAMBERS,

Wednesday, 4th May, 1910.

Minutes of proceedings of Internal Economy Commissioners, held on Wednesday, the 4th day of May, 1910.

Present: The Hon. The Speaker,
The Hon. W. S. Fielding,
The Hon. William Pugsley.

The following Resolutions were adopted:

1. Resolved—That the number of Post Office Sessional Clerks be increased from ten (as fixed by the resolution of January 28th, 1908), to eleven and that Mr. Alexander Sharp be transferred from the Messenger Service to the Post Office Branch.

2. Resolved—That the pay of the Post Office Sessional Clerks be increased from \$4 to \$5 per diem, the said increase to take effect from the beginning of the present Session of Parliament.

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3. Resolved—That the services of J. Moreau be retained as labourer during the Recess of Parliament at \$1.75 per diem and that the Accountant be authorized to pay him such wage dating from this date.

4. Resolved—That the pay of the Debates Amanuenses of the House of Commons be increased from \$4 to \$5 per diem, the same to take effect from the beginning of the present Session of Parliament.

5. Resolved—That the Clerk of the House be requested to communicate with the Public Works Department requesting it to furnish one of the Dominion Police for daily attendance in the outer lobby of the House during the Recess of Parliament.

6. Resolved—That the Sergeant-at-Arms be desired to authorize Members of the Press Gallery to occupy the Press Room in the Parliament Building during the Recess of Parliament.

7. Resolved—That the Board having heard read several communications from the Sessional Clerks of the House asking for some change in their status and remuneration, that the Clerk of the House be desired to make a report to this Board at an early date upon the subject of the status, pay and employment of the Sessional Clerks and to recommend any improvements in their status and work which may be of advantage to the service of the House.

8. Resolved—That the Clerk having represented that it would be in the interests of economy and the efficiency of the service of the House that an additional permanent official stenographer to committees of the House be appointed, if possible, before the opening of next session of Parliament, that the Speaker and Clerk be authorized to take the necessary steps to have such appointment made under the provisions of the Civil Service Act, the said appointment to be made to the 2nd Division Subdiv. A.

9. Resolved—That the Clerk of the House be requested to communicate with the Public Works Department expressing the desire of this Board that the Press Gallery of the House of Commons be extended in such a manner as to afford accommodation for a larger number of Members of the Press Gallery, the same to be undertaken and completed before the opening of the next session of Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,
SPEAKER'S CHAMBERS,

Wednesday, 16th November, 1910.

Minutes of Proceedings of Board of Commissioners of Internal Economy, held on Wednesday, the 16th day of November, 1910.

Present: The Hon. The Speaker,
The Hon. William Paterson,
The Hon. L. P. Brodeur,
The Hon. William Pugsley.

The Clerk of the House having informed the Board that the superannuation of Mr. A. Frechette, Law Translator and Chief of the Translation Branch, takes effect from 1st November last and that His Honour the Speaker, upon his recommendation, had promoted Mr. L. Laframboise to the

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vacancy, it was Resolved that the said promotion of Mr. Laframboise be concurred in.

The Clerk of the House also recommended that Mr. Laframboise be promoted to grade 1st Division Sub-Division A in place of Mr. Frechette, superannuated, and the Speaker having concurred in this recommendation the same was approved by the Board.

Mr. Emery Perrin, Translator, having applied to His Honour the Speaker for leave of absence for six months from 1st November with a view to superannuation and it appearing that Mr. Perrin is about the age of sixty-seven years and has been in the service of the House over thirty-two years and that his service during that period having been thoroughly satisfactory to the Authorities of the House, his application was approved and leave granted accordingly.

Mr. Remi Tremblay, Translator, who has been in the service of the House for twenty-eight years, having been recommended for promotion from grade 2nd Division Sub-Division A, to grade 1st Division Sub-Division B, in place of Mr. Laframboise promoted from the latter grade, and His Honour the Speaker having concurred in such recommendation, Resolved that the Board also approve of the same.

The Board during the last Session of Parliament having authorized the Speaker and Clerk to take the necessary steps to have an additional Permanent Stenographer to Committees of the House appointed before the next Session of Parliament, and provision for the payment of such official having been placed in the Estimates of the current year, it was decided that Mr. Charles S. Blue, a competent Stenographer, be recommended for appointment to the said position, under the provisions of the Civil Service Act, his said appointment to be made to the Second Division Sub-Division A.

Upon reading a request signed by upwards of one hundred Members of the House of Commons and several letters from Members of the House, and a report from the Clerk of the House, upon the subject of the employment of Sessional Stenographers and Typists for the assistance of Members during the Sessions of Parliament, the following Resolutions were adopted:

Resolved—That it is advisable that the assistance desired by the Members be furnished to the extent of one Stenographer and Typist to each ten Members of the House (not including Members of the Government having seats in the House, nor those other Members of the House already, under the practice of the House, supplied with clerical assistance). Upon this basis it is estimated twenty such Stenographers will supply the requirements.

Further Resolved—That it is to be understood that only men Stenographers are to be employed and all such Stenographers upon appointment to be subject to all the rules as to discipline applicable to other employees of the House.

The following Rules are to be observed in regard to the appointment and services of such Sessional Stenographers:

(a) Each such Stenographer and Typist is to be appointed by His Honour the Speaker (upon being satisfied that the nominee has the necessary qualification) upon the nomination, in writing of ten Members, none of whom may sign other nomination applications.

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(b) The nomination application shall be filed with the Clerk of the House for submission to the Speaker and the Clerk shall cause to be kept a register of the names of the applicants for each such Stenographer and of the Stenographer so appointed.

(c) The appointment is to be deemed to be for the Session only at which the same is made but nominees may be re-appointed at ensuing Sessions upon the like applications as when first appointed.

Resolved—That the Government be requested to recommend, upon estimate being given, the appropriation of a sufficient amount each Session to pay such Stenographers, such pay to be the same as that allowed the Sessional Clerks already on the Staff of the House.

CHARLES MARCIL,
Speaker.

